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Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also the resolutions previously adopted by the General Assembly on "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization" emphasizing, inter alia, the need for various specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant international financial institutions to join in their efforts towards implementation of economic programmes and projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Bearing in mind the progress attained by the Economic Cooperation Organization in its reorganizational endeavours as well as in launching and implementing various regional development projects and programmes over the past decade,

Welcoming the Economic Cooperation Organization's endeavours in regard to having consolidated its ties with the United Nations system and with relevant international and regional organizations towards the furtherance of its objectives,

Appreciating the decision taken by the Economic Cooperation Organization at its Sixth Summit Meeting held in Tehran on 10 June 2000 to welcome the initiative of Mohammad Khatami, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the dialogue among civilizations, the United Nations having designated the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, in order to promote this concept through planning and implementation of appropriate cultural, educational and social activities in the regional and global context,

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Recalling that one of the main objectives of the United Nations and Economic Cooperation Organization is to promote international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Expressing grave concern over the human casualties caused by natural disasters and their devastating impact on the socio-economic situation of some members of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 54/100 of 9 December 1999,[1] and expresses satisfaction at the enhanced pace of mutually beneficial interaction between the two organizations;

2. *Also takes note* of the Tehran Declaration issued at the Sixth Summit Meeting of the heads of State or Government of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization held in Tehran on 10 June 2000 which reiterates the common aspirations and resolve of the leadership of the organization for a prosperous Economic Cooperation Organization region;

3. *Stresses* the importance of increasing international cooperation to address the challenges of globalization through the full participation of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic and financial policy decision-making, as well as reversing the trend of marginalization of many developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in the areas of trade, finance and technology; and notes Pakistan's call to hold an international conference on governance of globalization with a view to ensuring equity and justice in the functioning of the global economy;

4. *Takes note* of the holding of ministerial-level meetings in the transport and communications sector and in commerce/foreign trade which, inter alia, resulted in the adoption of annexes to the Economic Cooperation Organization Transit Transport Framework Agreement and a Framework Agreement on Trade, respectively;

5. *Welcomes* the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in November 1999; and expresses its confidence that their mutual cooperation would add impetus to the ongoing trade/transit trade and transport arrangements in the Economic Cooperation Organization region;

6. *Appreciates* the decision of the Economic Cooperation Organization to hold ministerial-level meetings also in the areas of energy, agriculture, industry and human development;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the increasing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Trade Organization which has accorded observer status to the former and the increasing involvement of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the World Trade Organization's relevant forums and Ministerial Conferences; and also appreciates the holding of Joint Economic Cooperation Organization/World Trade Organization Seminars on Trade Negotiation Simulation;

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[1] A/55/122.

8. *Expresses satisfaction* at the regional arrangements made by the member States of the Economic Cooperation Organization for transporting the region's oil and gas to different parts of the world;

9. *Welcomes* the holding of a joint Economic Cooperation Organization/United Nations Population Fund Conference on Expanding Contraceptive Choice and Improving Quality of Reproductive Health Programme, held in Istanbul in May 2000, and calls upon the Fund and other relevant United Nations entities, in cooperation with the Economic Cooperation Organization, to continue activities in the field of public health and social development in future;

10. *Notes* the increasing problem of the production, transit and abuse of narcotic drugs and their ill effects in the region; appreciates the operations of the joint ECO-United Nations International Drug Control Programme project on a drug control coordination unit established in the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat since July 1999; and calls upon the other international and regional organizations to assist the Economic Cooperation Organization in its efforts against the drug menace in the Economic Cooperation Organization region;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* the expansion of the cultural ties in the region under the aegis of the Economic Cooperation Organization Cultural Institute and supports the endeavours for the promotion and awareness of the Economic Cooperation Organization region's rich cultural and literary heritage through the launching of appropriate projects and programmes including, inter alia, the issues regarding President Mohammad Khatami's initiative on the dialogue among civilizations with possible assistance from the Untied Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant entities;

12. *Invites* the United Nations system, its relevant bodies and the international community to continue to provide technical assistance to the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Cooperation Organization secretariat in strengthening their early warning system, preparedness, capacity for timely response and rehabilitation with a view to reducing human casualties and mitigating the socio-economic impact of natural disasters;

13. *Welcomes* the growing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and relevant international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the Islamic Development Bank, in particular the financial assistance extended by the latter in the fields of transport, trade, energy and agriculture;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".